

**REMARKS**

This application claims priority from two co-pending provisional applications, namely, Provisional Patent Application Serial Numbers 60/229,830 and 60/304,167. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/304,167 was originally filed as a utility application and assigned Ser. No. 09/654,096. Although a Petition to convert the 09/654,096 utility application to a provisional application was filed on February 20, 2001, it was not granted until August 29, 2001. A true and correct copy of the Decision on Petition is attached hereto as Exhibit A. In addition, the Decision on Petition was not received by applicant's counsel until September 7, 2001, after the present application was filed. Accordingly, applicant was unable to include the Serial Number of the second Provisional Patent Application on the first page of the present application. The foregoing amendment corrects the first page of the present application to include the Serial Number of the second Provisional Patent Application from which the present application claims priority.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and early favorable action is requested.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account

No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,



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**MARK-UP PAGE FOR THE OCTOBER 24, 2001, AMENDMENT TO U.S. PAT-  
ENT APPLICATION SER. NO. 09/944,517**

*The replacement for the paragraph at page 1, line 10 resulted from the following changes:*

Serial No. 60/304,167 [~~09/654,096~~], which was filed on August 31, 2000, by Roger Pannell for a SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR USING FUNCTION NUMBERS TO INCREASE THE COUNT OF OUTSTANDING SPLIT TRANSACTIONS,